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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 10/722,822 | 11/25/2003 | Amit Raikar | 200309668-1 | 9372 |
| 22879 7590 12/19/2007 HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400 | | | EXAMINER HOFFMAN, BRANDON S | |
| | | | ART UNIT 2136 | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | NOTIFICATION DATE 12/19/2007 | DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

JERRY.SHORMA@HP.COM
mkraft@hp.com
ipa.mail@hp.com

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/722,822 | Applicant(s) RAIKAR, AMIT | |
| | Examiner Brandon S. Hoffman | Art Unit 2136 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 October 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-26 are pending in this office action.

Claim Rejections

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sowa et al. (U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2002/0154776).

Regarding claims 1 and 18, Sowa et al. teaches a method/computer readable medium for establishing secure group-based communication comprising:

- Distributing a first set of keys to a plurality of hosts for encrypting communication and for source authentication of group-based communication between said plurality of hosts (paragraph 0044); and
- Distributing a second set of keys to said plurality of hosts for dynamically modifying said first set of keys (paragraph 0045).

Regarding claims 2 and 19, Sowa et al. teaches further comprising distributing said second set of keys wherein a unique set of keys are distributed to each of said plurality of hosts (paragraph 0038).

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Regarding claims 3 and 20, Sowa et al. teaches further comprising distributing said second set of keys wherein each of said plurality of hosts receives a unique key for each of said plurality of hosts except for itself (paragraph 0034).

Regarding claims 4, 15, and 21, Sowa et al. teaches further comprising communicating between said hosts in a utility data center communications environment (fig. 7).

Regarding claims 5, 16, and 22, Sowa et al. teaches further comprising authenticating a communication source from a host level (fig. 7).

Regarding claims 6, 17, and 23, Sowa et al. teaches further comprising authenticating a communication source from an application level (fig. 6).

Regarding claims 7, 11, and 24, Sowa et al. teaches further comprising adding a new host to said plurality of hosts and dynamically modifying said first set of keys in response to adding said new host (paragraph 0114).

Regarding claims 8, 13, and 25, Sowa et al. teaches in response to removing one of said plurality of hosts, dynamically modifying said first set of keys (paragraph 0115).

Regarding claims 9 and 26, Sowa et al. teaches further comprising dynamically modifying said first set of keys at regular intervals with said second set of keys (page 4, table 2).

Regarding claim 10, Sowa et al. teaches a method for establishing a secure group-based communication environment between a plurality of hosts comprising:

- Distributing a first set of keys to each of said plurality of hosts for encrypting communication between said hosts and for authenticating a source of communication between said plurality of hosts (paragraph 0044);
- Distributing a subset of said first set of keys to each of said plurality of hosts for validating said source of communication between said plurality of hosts (fig. 4, ref. num 115 and 117); and
- Distributing a second set of keys to each of said plurality of hosts for dynamically modifying said first set of keys and said subset of said first set of keys (paragraph 0045).

Regarding claim 12, Sowa et al. teaches further comprising dynamically modifying said first set of keys and said subset of said first set of keys with a third set of keys generated in response to adding said new host (paragraph 0114).

Regarding claim 14, Sowa et al. teaches further comprising dynamically modifying said first set of keys and said subset of said first set of keys with a third set of

keys generated in response to removing said host from said plurality of hosts (paragraph 0115).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant argues:

- a. Sowa et al. does not teach distributing a first set of keys to a plurality of hosts for encrypting communication and for source authentication of **group-based communication** between said plurality of hosts (page 12, first and second paragraph).
- b. Sowa et al. does not teach distributing a second set of keys to said plurality of hosts for **dynamically modifying said first set of keys** (page 13, last paragraph through page 14, second paragraph).

Regarding argument (a), examiner disagrees with applicant. Therefore, claim 10 remains rejected because the limitations were not argued. Second, claims 1 and 18 remain rejected because of the following reasons. Applicant argues that the CCK of Sowa cannot teach group-based communication because paragraph 0044 of Sowa says that "the CCK has no relation to a particular talkgroup." The very next sentence of the same paragraph goes on to say:

"the CCK is geographically specific, i.e., the CCK serves all units within a given location area. The location area as defined in the TETRA standard may be as small as a site or as big as an entire system. Each unit within a location area uses the same CCK.

Group communications in the outbound direction use CCK when there is no GCK/MGCK available for that group call.”

Clearly this shows the CCK being used for group-based communications, that is, communications within a geographically defined group or location.

Regarding argument (b), examiner disagrees with applicant. Table 2, paragraph 0101 and figure 14 of Sowa et al., shows the CCK being rekeyed (or replaced) and how the process takes place. Specifically, new CCK's are distributed that replace the old CCK's.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brandon S. Hoffman whose telephone number is 571-272-3863. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nasser G. Moazzami can be reached on 571-272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Brandon Hoffman/

BH

NASSER MOAZZAMI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100


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